

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 L-02 /027 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:RWAHERNE:SKG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 031760

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

TOSEC 100

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SA, US

SUBJECT: SIGNING OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH
SAUDI ARABIA

FOR ATHERTON FROM SOBER

ALSO PASS UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON

1. IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT
(TCA) WITH SAUDI ARABIA MAY BE READY FOR SIGNATURE WITHIN
THE NEXT 2-3 DAYS.

2. CHOICES FOR SIGNING ARE: (A) AKINS TO SIGN AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE; ANNOUNCEMENT OF SIGNATURE COULD BE MADE DURING
SECRETARY'S VISIT, SHOULD HE DESIRE (AKINS RECOMMENDS THIS
COURSE); (2) HOLD SIGNATURE UNTIL SECRETARY ARRIVES IN
RIYADH SO HE CAN PARTICIPATE; (3) HOLD SIGNATURE UNTIL ECO-
NOMIC JOINT COMMISSION MEETING IN WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 26-27.

3. THE FIRST TWO CHOICES DEPEND ON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIA-
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TION OF SEVERAL LAST-MINUTE TEXTUAL CHANGES, ON WHICH WE ARE

PROVIDING JIDDA WITH INSTRUCTIONS CONCURRENT WITH DESPATCH
THIS MESSAGE. WE ARE REASONABLY OPTIMISTIC THAT THESE
MATTERS WILL BE RESOLVED, AND THE AGREEMENT CLEARED FOR
SIGNATURE, IN TIME TO MAKE THESE OPTIONS VIABLE.

4. ASSUME YOU MIGHT WISH CHECK WITH SECRETARY ON HIS
VIEWS INASMUCH AS HIS POSSIBLE PERSONAL PARTICIPATION IS
IN QUESTION.
INGERSOLL

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